## Message Text

## UNCLASSIFIED

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 /080 W

-----119278 220302Z /75

R 210454Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1081
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

**UNCLAS NEW DELHI 6262** 

AMCONSUL MADRAS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PINT IN SHUM

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REPEAL OF MISA

REF: NEW DELHI 4656

1. HOME MINISTER CHARAN SINGH REDEEMED A JANATA PARTY PLEDGE ON APRIL 19 WHEN HE PUT BEFORE PARLIAMENT A BILL TO REPEAL THE 1971 MAINTENANCE OF INTERNAL SECURITY ACT (MISA), UNDER WHOSE PROVISIONS FORMER PRIME MINISTER GANDHI IMPRISONED THOUSANDS OF HER POLITICAL OPPONENTS DURING HER 21 MONTHS OF EMERGENCY RULE. THE HOME MINISTER REPRESENTED THE BILL AS FOLLOWING UP THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION LAST MONTH NOT TO AMEND THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE TO PROVIDE FOR PREVENTIVE DETENTION (REFTEL).

2. DURING QUESTION HOUR, WHEN ASKED WHAT WOULD TAKE THE PLACE OF MISA AGAINST THE "FORCES OF UNCLASSIFIED

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ANARCHY," THE HOME MINISTER REPLIED THAT MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STATES, WHICH MAY ADOPT PREVENTIVE DETENTION LEGISLATION IF THEY CHOOSE. HE NOTED THAT ANDHRA PRADESH, JAMMU AND KASHMIR, RAJASTHAN AND UTTAR PRADESH CURRENTLY HAVE PREVENTIVE DETENTION LAWS ON THE BOOKS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THESE LAWS WERE DIRECTED

 $\begin{array}{lll} \mbox{AGAINST "ANTI-SOCIAL ELEMENTS", AND COULD NOT BE USED} \\ \mbox{TO MAKE POLITICAL ARRESTS.} \\ \mbox{GOHEEN} \end{array}$ 

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, LEGISLATIVE BILLS, PREVENTIVE DETENTION

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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Subject: PROPOSED REPEAL OF MISA

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, IN

To: STATE Type: TE

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